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## Cyrus Guernsey Pringle

HAROLD GODDARD RUGG

The botanical world has lost a well-known personage in the death, May 25, of Cyrus Guernsey Pringle. Born in Charlotte, Vt., May 6, 1838, Dr. Pringle had made Vermont his home for nearly all his lifetime. Dr. Pringle was best known perhaps as a collector, and his herbarium of 100,000 specimens, now located at the University of Vermont, is extremely rich in rare material. His collecting trips led him to Arizona, California, Oregon, Washington, and especially to Mexico, where he was official collector for the Mexican government. Since 1885, when this country had been suggested to him by Dr. Asa Gray, it had been his special field. His winters were spent in collecting material, which was sent to Vermont and there examined and distributed to various herbaria throughout the world.

The late Mr. George Davenport had begun the study of ferns in 1873 and had written to Dr. Pringle to search for *Woodsia glabella* R. Br. It had been found once in Vermont, at Lake Willoughby. Dr. Pringle states that when he started on his search for this rare plant he did not know a single fern, but gradually he collected all the ferns known to Vermont. In 1876 he made his first trip to Mt. Mansfield—that most wonderful, to the botanist, of all Vermont mountains—and was rewarded by finding *Aspidium fragrans* (L.) Sw., never previously reported from Vermont, and *Asplenium viride* Huds., never before found in the United States. Later in the year of 1876 he went to Willoughby, and among the specimens collected there, which he sent to Professor Eaton for verification, were *Woodsia alpina* (Bolton) S. F. Gray, and another fern new to the flora of the United States. From 1874 to 1897 he collected all but thirty-six of the then known

one hundred and sixty-five species of North American ferns and sent home for determination sixteen new species.

For many years he had been vice-president of the Vermont Botanical Club, and it was indeed a treat to meet and to converse with this quiet, genial, unassuming man at the meetings of the Vermont Club. He was always ready and willing to show his specimens even to the uninitiated. His many friends throughout this country and Europe will regret to learn of his death.

HANOVER, N. H.

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### The field meeting at Hartford

E. J. WINSLOW

The meeting of Fern Society members announced in the April FERN JOURNAL took place on June 16, 17, and 18, when ten members from various parts of New England and New York met for field work in Hartford, Conn., and vicinity. The members who arrived at noon on the 16th were taken in charge by Mr. Henry Bigelow and conducted by steam and trolley to the forests of Plainville. Here a very brief exploration disclosed a list of twenty-five species of ferns, including *Dryopteris Goldiana*, which is rare in this region, *Botrychium simplex*, and *B. lanceolatum*. Here also were found three hybrids of *Dryopteris*.

On this trip a short call was made to inspect the fern garden at Mr. Bigelow's home, in New Britain, where such rare species as *Asplenium montanum*, *A. pinnatifidum*, *Scolopendrium vulgare*, and many others were seen growing vigorously. But most interesting of all was a remarkable plant of *Asplenium ebenoides* with several fronds nearly a foot long. Mr. Bigelow is evidently a master of the rather difficult art of making ferns grow.